



ST. LAURENCE CHURCH
PARISH EUCHARIST
Third Sunday of Lent
8th March 2026

This service will be live streamed. Your image will be captured on CCTV as a participant in the liturgy. Please tell a sidesman if you do not wish to be filmed in order to be seated in a position out of the view of the camera.

The You Tube link is:
<https://www.youtube.com/@StLaurenceChurchHawkhurst>

8.00am BCP Morning Prayer

Led by Stephen Ringer

10.00am Eucharist

Celebrant: Rev Lesley Hardy Preacher:

Rev Stephen Hardy

Sidesmen: Judy Darkins and Jean Elliott

Reader: Julie Hammonds

Intercessions: Jane Cooper

Chalice: Ali Jones and Lydeke Klein

Today's Hymns are:

414: *Jesu lover of my soul*

On leaflet: *Lord for the years*

42: *O worship the Lord*

385: *Father hear the prayer*

On leaflet: *To God be the Glory*

Lord, for the years

Lord, for the years your love has kept
and guided,

Urged and inspired us, cheered us on
our way,

Sought us and saved us, pardoned and
provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks
today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life
which fires us,
Speaks to our hearts and sets our souls
ablaze,
Teaches and trains, rebukes us and
inspires us,
Lord of the word, perceive your
people's praise.

Lord, for our land, in this our
generation,
Spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth
and care;
For young and old, for commonwealth
and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our
prayer.

Lord, for our world; when we disown
and doubt you,
Loveless in strength, and comfortless in
pain;
Hungry and helpless, and lost indeed
without you,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ
may reign.

Lord, for ourselves; in living power
remake us –
Self on the cross and Christ upon the
throne,
Past put behind us, for the future take
us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ
alone.

To God be the Glory

To God be the glory! Great things he hath done;
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son;
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice:
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give him the glory, great things he hath done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receive.

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

The Collect

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we,

walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading:

Romans 5.1-11

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord

Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Gospel Reading

John 4.5-42

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.' Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband,

and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging

him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

We pray for the sick:

Eleanor Ash, David Winstone, John Tanner, Irene Bow, Brian Elliott, Jill Fitzpatrick, Thomas Cox, Gwen Brown, Matt, Jill, Carol, Dido Robson, Hannah, Chris Bodeen, Val, Jane and Jeremy, Val Manser, Chris Bell, Rebekah Mary,

Keith Brown, Rod Simpson and Rosemary Mayhew.

We pray for those whose years mind occurs at this time:

(their names are also displayed on the altar in the Warrior Chapel).

Norma Fogarty, Spencer Charles Edwards, Francis Ann Vaughan, Douglas Brown, Kathryn Louise Bembridge, Brian Louis Piper, William Bennett, Joseph William Ringer, Mandy Jones, Kitty Weguelin, William David Potter, Freda Mary Griffin, Michael William Raymond Corp, Peter Lewis, Winifred Richard, Brian Lawrence, Lily Collins, Gillian Appelbe, Claire Newland, Jean M.M. Hill, Hilary Deller, David Gosnold, Roy Bryant.

ST LAURENCE CHURCH,
HAWKHURST

NOTICES 8th March 2026



Dear All,

Really looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the 14th to help with the planting of the hundreds of snowdrops “in the green” that have now arrived. A “mat” of wildflower seeds has also been ordered so we are hoping that will also arrive on time and we can then put it in place. After all last year's hard labour clearing out the brambles it will be so nice to move on to stage two of the project, so please join us if you can. Trowels, spades and kneelers would be useful if you have them.

Best Wishes,
Lynn

Easter Lilies

We will be offering you the opportunity to buy a lily in memory of a loved one again this year. Each lily will cost to £5.00 per stem. If you would like to buy one please could you either write a cheque payable to St

Laurence Church Flower Fund or put cash in an envelope and either deliver it by hand to Sam Cornish at Little Bokes, Horns Hill Hawkhurst, or give it to Clare Roberts or Liz Hatcher in Church.

Please put your donation in an envelope and ensure you provide;

- The name of the person in whose memory you are buying the lily
- Your name
- How much you are paying for the lily; cash/cheque. etc

Please note the last date for ordering a lily will be **Sunday 22nd March** so that we can order them in good time for Easter.

Wednesday Morning Prayer

at Bowles Lodge ~ 10.00a.m. Please do join us.

Compline - Wednesday at 6.00pm on Zoom. Please feel free to join us if you can. The Zoom link is:
Meeting ID: 880 4785 4233
Passcode: 798527

Easyfundraising

St Laurence Church is registered with easyfundraising. Please sign up to support us at: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stlaurence-hawkhurst/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=email-1

Collection and Giving - A collection will be taken during this service. Please use a Gift Aid envelope if you are a taxpayer. You may support our work by donating through the online terminal at the exit. Additionally you may give to St Laurence Church via the QR code below.



Parish Giving Scheme

St. Laurence is also a member of the Parish Giving Scheme. This enables you to give to St. Laurence monthly, quarterly or annually by Direct Debit. Please go to www.parishgiving.org.uk Donations can be increased by Gift Aid, adding 25%.

St Laurence 100 Club

The 100 Club has now been running since 2013. During that time it has raised £3,785 for St Laurence's. If all

100 shares were sold each year, then a profit of over £500 could be made. In recent years the number of shares sold have been reducing so that the amount raised each year has been falling. In 2025 that amount was only £200. For £10 a year you have the chance each month to win a prize of either £20, £10 or £5 knowing that all the time you are helping to support the church. If you have supported the 100 Club in the past, please consider rejoining or if you haven't joined previously, please think about doing so now. Application forms are available from the treasurer, Alison Parsons and can also be found on the table at the back of the church.

Lent Lunches

These will all be held in the Baptist Church hall 12.00 to 1.30pm
Hosted as follows:

March 13th – St Barnabas'
March 20th – St Laurence's
March 27th – Hawkhurst Baptist Church
April 3rd – All Churches

If you are able to contribute by donation of food and / or time, please could you sign the list (on the table at the back of the church) indicating what you are able to offer by way of:
Soup, Cheese, bread, butter, fruit.

Diocesan Service of Welcome for

New Archbishop - Saturday 28 March 2026 | Canterbury Cathedral 5.30 to 6.30pm. This service will be livestreamed on the Canterbury Cathedral YouTube channel. The link will be published on the Diocese of Canterbury website in due course.

Save the date for the Hawkhurst

Fete on Saturday 6th June, St Laurence Church will be responsible for manning the tea tent. We will be asking for volunteers to make and serve tea as well as donations of cakes.

FORTHCOMING SERVICES:

Fridays 13th, 20th & 27th March

10.00am Stations of the Cross & Lenten Prayers with reflection. Coffee and tea will be provided afterwards.

Led by Julie Hammonds and Claire Roberts

15th March: Mothering Sunday

8.00am BCP Morning Prayer

Led by Dr Julie Hammonds

10.00am Eucharist

Bishop David Bannerman
Sidesmen: Ali Jones and Kate Lagden
Reader: Anne Wheelhouse
Intercessions: Stephen Ringer
Chalice: Nana Twumampfo and Kwame Appiah-Peprah

22nd March:

8.00am BCP Morning Prayer

Led by Dr Julie Hammonds

10.00am Eucharist

Rev Stephen Hardy and Rev Lesley Hardy

29th March: Palm Sunday

8.00am BCP Morning Prayer

Led by Stephen Ringer

10.00am Eucharist

Rev Sue Starkings

EASTER SERVICES

The Bishop of Dover, the Right Reverend Bishop Rose Hudson-Wilkin will be presiding over the following Easter Services:

Maundy Thursday – timing and arrangements TBC

Good Friday – timing and arrangements TBC

10 am Easter Sunday Eucharist

Please bring a posy of flowers to adorn the cross if you are able to.

Good Friday - As well as our own service at St Laurence on Good Friday – 3rd April – we will have the following Ecumenical Service:

This year the Good Friday Service will be led by Revd Ben Gotts. It will begin at St Barnabas' at 11:30am. The walk will proceed through the village, finishing at Dunk's Almshouses. Attendees will then be invited back to the Baptist Church for the final Lent Lunch.

Prayer for peace in the world

Almighty God,
from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed:
kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all,
the true love of peace
and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom
those who take counsel for the nations of the earth
that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward,
till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

AT YOUR SERVICE

Vicar

The Benefice is currently in vacancy.

Licensed Parish Reader

Mr. Stephen Ringer: 01580 879710

Authorised Lay Minister

Dr. Julie Hammonds: 07587 470678

Churchwardens

Claire Roberts: 01580 754374

Liz Hatcher: 01580 712099

Assistants

Lydeke Klein: 01580 493732

Ali Jones: 01580 755705

Safeguarding:

Mrs Jane Cooper: 07825 044877

Choirmaster and Organist:

Dr. Charlotte O'Neill:
01580 753817

Organist:

Mr. Richard O'Neill:
01580 753817